

BOARD OF MADISON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
March 4, 2008 MINUTES

On Tuesday, March 4, 2008, a meeting of the Board of Madison County Commissioners came to order at 9:20 a.m. with Commissioners David Schulz, Marilyn Ross, and Jim Hart present.

Jim Hart moved to approve the February 26, 2008, minutes as corrected. Marilyn Ross seconded the motion. Jim Hart and Marilyn Ross voted aye. David Schulz abstained from voting as he was absent for that meeting. The motion carried on a majority vote.

Those people in attendance at the meeting were Charity Fechter, John Bancroft, Chris Mumme, Dave Schenk, Brandy Hilton, Mark Olson, Vicki Tilstra, Pat Bradley, John Hamilton, John Scott, Joanne Erdall, Judy Brendel, Gary Forney, Bundy Bailey, Amy Donovan, Diane Degner, Lizz Babcock, Donna Gilman, MaryAnn O'Malley, Shelly Burke, Lisa Frye, Ralph Hamler, Steve DiGiovanna, Chris Christensen, Barbie Durham, Peggy Kaatz, Jill Steeley, Molly Peterson, Janie Alt, Karen Brown, Marilee Tucker, Patty Davis, Roger Staley, Johanna Lester, Jim Jarvis, Linda Robertson, Karen Miller, Janet Fortner, Doug Walsh, John Scully, and Sheri Jarvis.

Journal Vouchers: Marilyn Ross moved to approve Journal Vouchers for the February, 2008, accounting period. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Forest Service MOU: The Board discussed an MOU regarding the Forest Service Resource Management Plan in a telephone conversation with Garth Haugland, Beaverhead County Commissioner. After discussion, Jim Hart moved to enter into the Memorandum of Understanding between Madison County and USDA, Forest Service, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest for the purpose of defining the relationship and duties of the Forest Service and Madison County in the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan Revision, for the period beginning as of the date of the last signature and is, unless sooner terminated, or upon completion of a final EIS and signed Record of Decision by the Forest Service, effective through March 31, 2013, at which time it will expire. Marilyn Ross seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Airport Affected Area Regulations: Charity Fechter, Planning Director, met with the Board to discuss the progress of developing Airport Affected Area Regulations. Charity stated that this project was presented to the Planning Board at their last meeting. Charity and Don Loyd are updating some of the language in the regulations, using the MACo policy as a model, and will hopefully get it back to the Planning Board at their next meeting.

False Alarm Ordinance: Chris Mumme, Director of Emergency Management, John Bancroft, LEPC, and Dave Schenk, Sheriff, met with the Board to discuss a proposed ordinance that would impose fines for multiple false alarms from electronic alarm systems. Because questions have been raised regarding the authority of Madison County to pass this ordinance, Dave Schenk requested that the Board ask the County Attorney to request an opinion from the Attorney General. After much discussion David Schulz asked the Sheriff if he was content with the language in the ordinance. Dave Schenk stated he was content but would like to see language added that would show statutes regarding the Board's authority to enforce the ordinance. Marilyn Ross moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance 1-2008, adding "Whereas, Madison County Commissioners have the power to enact ordinances provided under Article XI Section 4 of the Montana Constitution, MCA 7-5-2101 & 7-3-1222" to the language of the ordinance; and to request the County Attorney to get an opinion from the Attorney General as to the County's authority to pass this type of ordinance before scheduling the second reading of the ordinance. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Fire District Resolution: Chris Mumme, Director of Emergency Management, met with the Board to discuss two resolutions relating to formation of a rural fire district surrounding Virginia City and annexation of property into the Alder Rural Fire District. Brandy Hilton and Mark Olson, Department of Revenue, were also present at this portion of the meeting. Mark noted that the fire district additions would not go on the assessments for this year. After much discussion relating to language in the law of when the Department of Revenue needs to be notified of new taxing jurisdictions, Marilyn Ross moved to adopt Resolution 5-2008, a resolution annexing sections of land that are unassigned for fire protection into existing Alder Rural Fire District. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Marilyn Ross moved to adopt Resolution 6-2008, a resolution encompassing sections of land that are unassigned for fire protection into a newly created Virginia City Rural Fire District, excluding the property currently in the Virginia City Fire District. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

County Fire Chiefs Council: Chris Mumme, Director of Emergency Management, met with the Board to discuss creating a council made up of County Fire Chiefs. The Board concurred that this is a good idea.

Status of Proposed Levies: Brandy Hilton and Mark Olson, Department of Revenue, met with the Board to discuss the status of mill levies for the current assessment year. Mark stated that the Sheridan Park District levy would be assessed on the 2008 tax bills but, as discussed earlier in the meeting, the new fire districts would not. Brandy will assess all buildings that the DOR shows as dwellings for the Sheridan Park District. It will then be up to the Park District Board to determine whether or not these dwellings are all considered "households".

Department of Revenue: Brandy Hilton and Mark Olson, Department of Revenue, discussed the space needs of the Department of Revenue and the possibility of shuffling offices to different areas or buildings. David Schulz stated that it's important to continue working relationships between all offices but because of the County need for more space, we may be forced to move the DOR to another building. Mark stated that the Department would remain open-minded and flexible if there were a need for them to move.

Big Sky Law Enforcement Contract: Dave Schenk, Sheriff, met with the Board to discuss renewal of the agreement for law enforcement in Big Sky. After reviewing budget items associated with this agreement, Jim Hart moved to approve the Agreement between Gallatin County, Madison County, and Big Sky Resort Area District for Big Sky Law Enforcement for a three year period, from July 1, 2005 until June 30, 2008. Marilyn Ross seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Staff Meeting: Those present for this portion of the meeting were Bundy Bailey, Amy Donovan, Diane Degner, Lizz Babcock, Donna Gilman, MaryAnn O'Malley, Shelly Burke, Lisa Frye, Ralph Hamler, Steve DiGiovanna, Chris Christensen, Barbie Durham, Peggy Kaatz, Jill Steele, Molly Peterson, Janie Alt, Charity Fechter, Karen Brown, Marilee Tucker, Patty Davis, Roger Staley, Johanna Lester, Jim Jarvis, Vicki Tilstra, Linda Robertson, Joanne Erdall, Karen Miller, Brandy Hilton, and Janet Fortner

- **Salary Research Committee:** Jill Steele recommended the creation of a committee to research all County salaries and develop a salary recommendation to be presented to the Compensation Board. David Schulz stated that the Compensation Board is specifically designed to determine the Clerk and Recorder's salary and the County Attorney's salary. He stated that the Compensation Board could be asked to review the recommendation of the salary committee. Those who volunteered to serve on the salary committee are Shelly Burke, Lisa Frye, Ralph Hamler, Jill Steele, and Peggy Kaatz.
- **Law and Justice Center Status:** Laurie Buyan stated that at the last Law and Justice Center Committee meeting, the name of the group was changed to the Madison County Facilities Advisory Committee. Bundy Bailey stated that she felt the last meeting of the committee had gone very well. Peggy Kaatz stated that she had heard that someone at the last meeting stated that County employees should not be on the committee. She feels that it is important to have County employees on the Committee. David Schulz stated that there are issues with the Lee property because of lack of parking but that the Board has looked at various other properties and will look at the Doyle property as an alternative.
- **Employee Concerns:** Patty Davis asked if there will be a St. Patrick's Day lunch this year. Because St. Patrick's Day falls on a Monday, which is a busy court day, it was decided to have the lunch on Tuesday, March 18, with the Commissioners providing Corned Beef and Cabbage.

IGT Questionnaire: Jim Hart moved to authorize Vicki Tilstra, Chief Financial Officer, to complete and return the Fiscal Year 2008 Intergovernmental Transfer Questionnaire from the Department of Public Health and Human Services, Senior and Long Term Care Division relating to nursing homes funding. Marilyn Ross seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Library Board/Vigilance Club Building: Pat Bradley, Judy Brendel, Gary Forney, Library Board, Joanne Erdall, Librarian, John Hamilton, John Scott, Vigilance Club, and Roger Staley, Maintenance, met with the Board to discuss repairs and improvements needed on the Thompson Hickman Library/Museum building. Joanne presented the Board with a Scope of Work that was developed as a result of a joint meeting between the Library Board and the Vigilance Club and requested that a Preliminary Engineering Investigation be conducted to determine the amount of work that should be done. Marilyn Ross moved to contact Great West Engineering, On-Call Engineering firm for Madison County, to prepare a Scope of Work for repairs on the Thompson Hickman Library/Museum building in Virginia City. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Appropriations Request: Barbie Durham, Grant Writer, presented the Board with an appropriations request for funding to repair historical buildings at the Fairgrounds. Barbie noted that she had discussed an appropriations request for senior services with Kim Kruger who advised her that she is researching alternate sources for funding for senior services. Marilyn Ross moved to approve the appropriations request in the amount of \$400,000 for

restoration of the buildings at the Fairgrounds in Twin Bridges, Montana. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

CDBG Nursing Homes Grant: Barbie Durham, Grant Writer, met with the Board to discuss a CDBG grant for needed repairs on both of the County nursing homes. Barbie stated that, having been in contact with CDBG, she has been advised to split the grant applications into two projects, one for each nursing home.

Airport Manager Position: After posting notice of the vacancy and having received one letter of interest, Jim Hart moved to formally appoint Brendon Dale as the Twin Bridges Airport Manager, with his wage continuing at the current rate of \$15.00 per hour. Marilyn Ross seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Public Health Board Mill Levy Request: Jill Steeley, Public Health Administrator, Doug Walsh, Public Health Board member, Vicki Tilstra, Chief Financial Officer, and Peggy Kaatz, Clerk and Recorder, were present for this portion of the meeting to discuss a request by the Public Health Department to put a 2.5 mill levy request on the June Primary ballot. David Schulz requested a budget from the Public Health Department indicating how this funding would be distributed. Doug Walsh stated that the revenue generated from the 2.5 mills would offset the amount that is currently coming from the County general fund and Homeland Security funding and that if the entire amount is not needed the assessment would be reduced the following year. Jill will develop a resolution for the Board's consideration.

Facilities Advisory Committee Discussion: John Scully, Facilities Advisory Committee Chair, met with the Board to discuss issues involving the advisory committee. Pat Bradley, Karen Brown, and Sheri Jarvis were also present for this portion of the meeting. John stated that he has talked to one candidate interested in the secretarial position for the Committee and asked if there were more that were interested. David Schulz stated that this position should be advertised before hiring. Other topics discussed were developing steering committees from each Community, advertising for volunteers, and expectations of a final result from the committee. The Board will advertise for the secretarial position and community volunteers to serve on each steering committee. The committee will strive to develop up to three conceptual plans to bring to the Commission addressing the facility needs identified by the County and present the final plan to the public. Sheri Jarvis stated for the record that she will continue to attend committee meetings but is unable to participate as a voting member or as a member of a community steering committee. Karen Brown offered her services to the Committee by putting information and public notices on the County website.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Note: Following the March 4, 2008, meeting, David Schulz was contacted by Mark Olson, Department of Revenue, advising him that the Fire District Assessments for Alder and Virginia City would be included on the 2008 tax assessments.

David Schulz, Chairman
Board of Madison County Commissioners

Date Approved: March 11, 2008

Minutes prepared by:

Laurie Buyan, Administrative Assistant

Peggy Kaatz, Clerk and Recorder, Madison County